

WAR REGARDED AS CERTAIN.

JAPAN WILL FIGHT UNLESS RUSSIA BACKS DOWN.

The State Department Gets Definite Information Through Japanese Official Channels and Learns That No Pressure by Nations Will Change Result

WASHINGTON, Jan. 14.—Information conveyed to the State Department to-day through Japanese official channels points directly to the conclusion that Japan has determined to fight for her contentions as to Manchuria and Corea unless the Russian Government modifies its present position. No hope is held in Administration circles that Russia will recede from the stand taken in her last note, and war is regarded

The State Department is now fully advised as to what Japan insists on and what she intends to do if her opponent is obdurate. That efforts which England, France and Germany are making or preparing to make to induce Japan not to engage in hostilities will come to nothing the Department knows to be a fact. Modification of the Russian attitude is the only thing that will secure a continuance of

Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Minister, had a long talk to-day with Secretary Hay to whom he explained fully the attitude of his Government and what it intended to do if Russia remained unyielding to Japan's suggestions. Mr. Takahira left with Mr. Hay a statement of the terms of the last Russian note and the Japanese response thereto, which Mr. Hay was informed was transmitted to the Russian Government this morning.

Japan, in this communication, declines to make any further concessions, and sug-

great indications in the Russian proposals which she regards as absolutely necessary to the safeguarding of her interests in Manchuria and Corea. The position assumed by Japan is that she must refuse to accept the Russian proposal that a neutral zone embracing nearly one-third of Corea be established and must insist upon the maintenance of the territorial integrity of China and Corea, although willing to recognize Russia's special in-

THE SUN representative is reliably informed that the statement of Japan's position communicated to the State Department is a literal rendering of the explanation telegraphed to newspapers from Tokyo on Jan 6, the source of which was not clearly indicated at the time.

the terms of the Japanese response communicated to Russia to-day than that unless the modifications suggested are made Japan will go to war.

While not an ultimatum, the Japanese note makes it clear that the negotiations cannot be prolonged unless Russia offers concessions. This Government has been advised that Japan feels that she can lose

of an unsuccessful war with the Czar's forces than she would lose now by giving way to the Russian proposals. She believes, therefore, that a war will do her no great harm, except in a financial way, and may do her an immense amount of good.

She holds that the integrity of China and Corea are worth fighting for, particularly as, according to her view, one of them will

"Japan intends to have a run for her money, at least," was the way it was put to The Star's representative to-day by one of the members of the Japanese mission.

From its St. Petersburg embassy the State Department heard reports to-day entirely at variance with the idea that war is at hand. From Paris and Berlin it heard that France and Germany were preparing to induce Japan to give way to Russia and thus avert a bloody struggle which might

involve other nations. It heard also from another source that England was a party to this movement, the British position being that Japan would save more by granting what Russia now asks than by going to war. Far be it from THE SUN's representative even to intimate that his Government's

The Administration officials know that the British Government is terribly worried over the Russo-Japanese crisis and is willing to do much to avert a clash, mainly for

strengthen Russia's position in the Orient to the detriment of England's, but might involve Great Britain in a struggle with the ambitious Muscovite.

Some pretty definite information about the peace movement of the Powers came from Gen. Horace Porter, the American

despatch showed that he believed there was a white winged dove of peace was hovering over Russia and Japan. He said in effect that there was likely to be a concerted movement among some European nations to bring pressure to bear on Japan to prevent a war, and that in Paris it was believed that hos-

The Administration, as indicated previously, does not share this view. There is reason to believe that, while it hopes that the differences between Russia and Japan will be arranged amicably, it is in sympathy with the Japanese position that if the modifications suggested in the Japanese

The Administration is not as pleased as might have been supposed with the assurances given to Secretary Hay by

Monday, that "the Russian authorities would place no obstacle in the way of the full enjoyment by the Powers having treaties with China of all the rights and privileges guaranteed by such treaties in Manchuria."

This is taken to mean an assumption on the part of Russia that she is hereafter

idea is resented here on the ground that all the Powers which participated in the suppression of the Boxer uprising of 1900 are pledged to respect the territorial integrity of China.

The United States Government ~~states~~ that it has a political as well as a commercial